

The Scheme is implemented in 48 Districts where the literacy amongst girls belonging to Scheduled Castes is less than 2% as per 1981 census. All these districts fall in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, as per 1981 census.

(c) and (d) The Scheme does not cover the State of Maharashtra.

### **Registered Orphanages in the Country**

473. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised or registered orphanages or homes for orphan children in the country today;

(b) the total number of orphan children in such Centres, State-wise;

(c) the kind of education and training being given to these children to enable them to stand on their own legs when they grow up; and

(d) whether the Central Adoption Resource Agency has started functioning to the satisfaction of her Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) There is no specific scheme under the Ministry for recognizing and registering orphanages. Moreover, Orphanages are registered and recognized by respective State Governments and the Ministry does not keep any record of their names and number of inmates.

However, the Ministry has a Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for Homes (Shishu Griha) for infants for promoting in-country Adoption, under which 48 such homes as on date provide care and maintenance for destitute children as a pre-placement facility. A State-wise list is placed at Statement (*See below*).

The children in these homes are mostly under the age of 6 years and are provided with care, nutrition and medical assistance amongst other things as part of institutional care before being placed in adoption.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Statement***Children maintained under Shishu Greh*

Name of State	No. of Shishu Grehs	No. of Children Maintained
Andhra Pradesh	3	40
Arunachal Pradesh	1	20
Delhi	2	19
Gujarat	2	30
Haryana	2	20
H.P.	1	10
Karnataka	1	10
Kerala	2	20
M.P.	1	20
Maharashtra	15	200
Manipur	2	17
Mizoram	1	10
Orissa	8	120
Rajasthan	2	30
Tamil Nadu	2	40
Tripura	1	20
West Bengal	2	30
Total:	48	656

**Exploitation of children of sex workers and pavement dwellers**

474. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to prevent the abuse and exploitation of the children of pavement dwellers and of sex workers in the country including Andhra Pradesh;